



DAVID MAXWELL-JOLLY  
Director

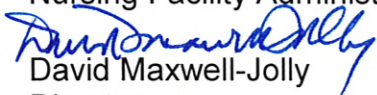
State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
Department of Health Care Services



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor

**DATE:** JUN 10 2009

**TO:** Nursing Facility Administrators

**FROM:**   
David Maxwell-Jolly  
Director

**SUBJECT:** California Community Transitions

I am writing to request your consideration to participate in the federal Money Follows the Person demonstration currently underway in California, 29 other states and the District of Columbia. The demonstration is an Olmstead activity intended to assist you in your discharge efforts and familiarize individuals in your facility with available home and community-based services (HCBS), as required by Health and Safety Code section 1418.81(a).

In 2007, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services awarded the state a special grant to help eligible individuals transition from health facilities—hospitals and nursing facilities including those receiving care in sub-acute beds, and intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities—to a community living arrangement. Individuals may be eligible if they have resided continuously in one or more of these facilities for six months or longer and have received full-scope Medi-Cal for at least 30 days.

After several years in development, the Department, through formal agreements with HCBS providers called “lead organizations,” is now implementing *California Community Transitions* in your area. Lead organizations retain transition coordinators who are trained to conduct interviews, explore individuals’ interest and feasibility in participating, and put needed long-term services and supports in place before discharge. Whether or not the individual moves from your facility, transition coordinators complete a one-page form for evidence they have discussed feasibility of moving to a community living arrangement. We believe this documentation will be very important once MDS version 3.0 is implemented in late 2010.

Individuals in your facility are under no obligation to speak to a transition coordinator but if interested in participating, must agree in writing. Transition coordinators work closely with your discharge team and ensure individuals are enrolled in HCBS waivers and/or receive state plan and other HCBS to support them once they move.

To learn more about this important demonstration, please contact Ms. Betsi Howard, CCT Project Director, at (916) 440-7544, or [betsi.howard@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:betsi.howard@dhcs.ca.gov).